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DCID No. 1/5

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/5¹

STRATEGIC WARNING

(Effective 3 March 1975)

Pursuant to provisions of NSCID No. 1, the position of Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence for Strategic Warning and a Strategic Warning Staff are hereby established.

1. Mission

The mission of the Special Assistant, with the support of the Strategic Warning Staff, is to advise and assist the Director of Central Intelligence in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities with respect to the provision of strategic warning intelligence.

2. Definition

Strategic warning is defined as the earliest possible warning that the Soviet Union, the Warsaw Pact, the PRC, or North Korea is considering military action by its armed forces beyond its borders, or is employing its military capabilities beyond its borders in ways that might threaten military confrontation with the U.S.

3. Functions

The functions of the Special Assistant and the Strategic Warning Staff are:

a. To carry on a continuing analysis of information and intelligence from all sources which might provide strategic warning.

b. When the situation warrants it, to issue strategic warning notices to the DCI, who will notify the President and National Security Council or take such other action as he deems necessary. The DCI will also transmit the strategic warning notices to the USIB Principals for further dissemination within their departments and agencies. When time is of the essence, the Special Assistant may issue such notices directly to the President and NSC with concurrent dissemination to the DCI and USIB Principals.

c. To make to the DCI (and in time critical situations laterally to other USIB Principals) such other reports on the status of strategic warning as the Special Assistant may direct.

d. To conduct and submit to DCI and USIB Principals studies and analyses with a view to improving the capabilities of the Intelligence Community to provide strategic warning and with due consideration for related work being done elsewhere in the community.

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¹ This directive supersedes DCID 1/5, effective 23 April 1965.

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e. To arrange with appropriate departments and agencies of the Government for the prompt forwarding to the Strategic Warning Staff of all the information it needs to carry out its mission.

4. *Community Responsibilities*

a. The responsibilities of USIB departments and agencies in support of the Special Assistant and the Strategic Warning Staff are:

(1) To provide full-time, senior professional intelligence personnel to the Strategic Warning Staff and other support as arranged by the Special Assistant.

(2) To provide to the Strategic Warning Staff on a timely basis all information from every domestic and foreign source pertinent to the strategic warning mission, as is prescribed in NSAM 226.

b. The DIA shall provide the facilities for the Strategic Warning Staff, including communications, data processing, logistic and administrative support.

5. *Composition and Organization*

a. The Special Assistant for Strategic Warning shall be appointed by the DCI in consultation with the Director, DIA.

b. The Strategic Warning Staff shall be directed by a CIA officer appointed by the DCI. He shall be directly responsible to the Special Assistant and shall serve as his deputy for strategic warning.

c. The Strategic Warning Staff shall be collocated with the National Military Intelligence Center and shall consist of intelligence officers assigned from appropriate elements of the Community in consultation with the Special Assistant.

6. *Review*

The Deputy to the Director of Central Intelligence for the Intelligence Community (D/DCI/IC) is hereby assigned responsibility for the formation of a USIB working group to review the functioning of the strategic warning process and to report periodically—at least annually—to the USIB on its findings.

W. E. Colby
Director of Central Intelligence